PAT-NO: JP411164190A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: <u>JP 11164190 A</u>

TITLE: AUTOMATIC EXPOSURE CONTROL METHOD

PUBN-DATE: June 18, 1999

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	COUNTRY
MAEHARA, NORIAKI	N/A

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	COUNTRY
MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	N/A

APPL-NO: JP09327417

APPL-DATE: November 28, 1997

INT-CL (IPC): H04N005/235

ABSTRACT:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To improve the luminance level around a maximum frequency position of a luminance histogram by generating a histogram of luminance, calculating proper **luminance correction values** with respect to the luminance levels of respective **divided areas,** and making luminance level corrections as well as gamma corrections, in response to the **luminance correction values**.

SOLUTION: A histogram of luminance is generated, its contents are divided into several areas, and a maximum frequency in each **divided area** is extracted. Based on this the proper **luminance correction values** for the luminance levels of the respective areas are so calculated as to weight the luminance level of the highest frequency area, and the **luminance correction values** are used to perform the luminance level corrections as well as gamma corrections. For example, an image-pickup device allows an exposure control part 23 for controlling a diaphragm 13/electronic shutter by using integrated luminance information each time the video of the screen is inputted from a CCD 14 and furthermore to weight the luminance level based on the luminance histogram information.